

## BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Revocation	)	
	)	
or Suspension of the Educator	)	<b>ORDER OF SUSPENSION</b>
	)	<b>(BREACH OF CONTRACT)</b>
Certificate of Joan R. Breitenbruck	)	
	)	
Certificate 229067	)	

### SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on December 13, 2006. On October 12, 2006, the Office of Educator Certification sent Joan R. Breitenbruck notice of her right to a hearing regarding the possible suspension of her South Carolina educator certificate by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, delivery restricted to addressee. Ms. Breitenbruck received the notice as evidenced by a postal receipt bearing her signature. Ms. Breitenbruck did not request a hearing within the time specified in the notice letter. After considering the information presented by the Department, the State Board voted to suspend Ms. Breitenbruck's certificate for one year.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Breitenbruck holds an initial South Carolina educator certificate. On August 7, 2006, she signed an Induction contract for the 2006-07 school year with the Greenville County School District, where she was assigned as a Science teacher to Traveler's Rest High School. She submitted a letter of resignation on September 18, 2006, to be effective immediately. By letter of September 21, 2006, the District Superintendent informed Ms. Breitenbruck that her resignation was not in compliance with District policy and that her breach of contract would result in possible action on her educator certificate. On September 26, 2006, the District Board of Trustees voted to request the suspension of Ms. Breitenbruck's certificate by the State Board of Education.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The State Board may suspend the certificate of any person for unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. §§ 59-25-150 and 160 (2004). Breach of contract is deemed to be unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (1992). The State Board finds that there is sufficient information supporting its conclusion that Ms. Breitenbruck breached her contract with the Greenville County School District, warranting the suspension of her certificate for a period of one year, through December 12, 2007. Should Ms. Breitenbruck wish to have her certificate reinstated at the end of the suspension period, she may make a written request for reinstatement to the Office of Educator Certification.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Joe Isaac

Joe Isaac, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

December 13, 2006